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FACSIMILE 816 474-3447 APR 27 P2:01 LORI A. BEAM KEVIN M. CON

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April 22, 1999

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Dockets Management Branch (HFA - 305) Food and Drug Administration 5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061 Rockville, MD 20852

> Re: Docket No.: 98N-1038 "Irradiation in the Production, Processing and Handling of Food

Dear FDA:

JAMES T. SEIGFREID LARRY J. BINGHAM

ALLAN W. STOPPERAN GORDON D. GEE

ROBERT C. LEVY

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CINDY A. McCLANNAHAN ROBERT J. BJERG JAMES C. TILDEN

GREGORY 5. GERSTNER

Please register my desire to continue the requirement for proper labeling of irradiated foods and processes. The original rationale of the FDA in requiring such labeling remains unchanged. Irradiation is a process that does that change the texture, taste, storage characteristics and nutrients of a food or process and members of the consuming public are entitled to this information in making their own choices regarding the food they ate and serve.

I support the current terminology of "treated with radiation" or "treated by irradiation" and the use of the symbol on all irradiated whole foods. It is clear that irradiation is a "material fact" concerning the processing of food and in our protection of individual rights, disclosure is both appropriate and necessary.

Yours very truly,

Robert J. Mann

RJM/dm

Representative Karen McCarthy cc:

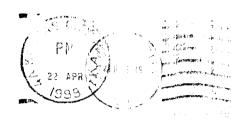
> Senator John Ashcroft Senator Kit Bond

98N-1038

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